

*Library*

RURAL DISTRICT OF BRACKLEY

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year 1961



ARTHUR LUCAS



**RURAL DISTRICT OF BRACKLEY**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

FOR THE

**Year 1961**

**ARTHUR LUCAS**



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28944471>

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District  
Council of Brackley.

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to present my Annual Report for 1961.

As before the statistics agree generally with those of the rest of the county and it is pleasing to note that no cases of Food Poisoning or Poliomyelitis were notified.

Food premises and hotels are improving, as will be seen by the reports of my Public Health Inspectors who always keep them under their eye.

Water supplies have been satisfactory and soon all villages will be sewered.

One feels that the attention of new Councillors should be drawn to this Department and the work they do in the prevention of spread of infection and the improvement of hygiene in general, as it appears to be thought that this is done by the County Council alone.

Again I have great pleasure in thanking Mr. Turbitt and Mr. Caley for their good work in the past year, especially as they have building inspection to add to their other duties. Also their clerk, Mr. Mullis, who is a great help in keeping reports up-to-date and Mr. Bartlett who is such a reliable Rodent Operative.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR LUCAS,  
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.G., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Rural District Council Offices,  
Brackley Lodge,  
Brackley, Northants.  
June. 1962.

# **BRACKLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

---

## **Chairman of the Council :**

Lt. Col. V. G. Toler-Aylward, J.P.

## **Vice Chairman of the Council :**

F. T. Kieldsen, Esq., C.C.

## **Members of the Public Health Committee :**

Mrs. I. S. Forrest, Messrs. L. S. Prosser (Chairman), L. C. Bartlett, S. Berry, J. N. Gibbard, P. W. Henn, W. A. N. Scott (Resigned October 1961), P. G. Taylor, C. H. Shepperson (Elected December 1961) and L. Warren (Vice-Chairman).

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex officio members of the Public Health Committee.

## **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority**

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

Arthur Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H., County Hall, Guildhall Road, Northampton. Telephone No. Northampton 5580.

Also holds appointments of :—

Medical Officer of Health in Brackley Borough; Towcester R.D.C., Northampton R.D.C., and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer, Northamptonshire County Council.

### **Senior Public Health Inspector :**

W. E. Turbitt, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I

### **Additional Public Health Inspector :**

N. R. Caley, A.R.S.H.

### **Clerk to the Public Health Inspectors :**

E. G. Mullis.

### **Rodent Operative :**

W. G. Bartlett.

## SECTION A.

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA AND STATISTICS

#### Summary of Vital Statistics, 1961

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,132
Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,270
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,455
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£92,567
Product of a penny rate at 1st April, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£371

#### Live Births

	Total	Male	Female	(per 1000 population)	England	Northamp-	Wales	tonshire
Legitimate	170	90	80					
Illegitimate	12	8	4					
Total	182	98	84	16·1	18·04			17·4

#### Stillbirths

	3	2	1	(per 1,000 births)	16·2	16·22	18·7
Legitimate	3	2	1				
Illegitimate	—	—	—				
Total	3	2	1				

Deaths	130	76	54	(per 1,000 population)	11·5	12·0	11·18
--------	-----	----	----	------------------------	------	------	-------

#### Deaths from puerperal causes

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

#### Infant Mortality

	3	2	1	(per 1,000 live births)	16·4	17·61	21·4
Legitimate	3	2	1				
Illegitimate	—	—	—				
Total	3	2	1				

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	28
"    "    Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil
"    "    Measles	Nil
"    "    Whooping Cough	Nil
"    "    Infectious Diseases	1
"    "    Tuberculosis	Nil

The registered causes of death were :—

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ... ...	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ... ...	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic diseases ... ... ...	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ... ...	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ... ...	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ... ...	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ... ...	—	—	—
8. Measles ... ... ...	—	—	—
9. Other infectious and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ...	1	1	2
11. Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus ...	6	—	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ...	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ...	—	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	15
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ...	1	—	1
16. Diabetes ... ... ...	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system...	11	12	23
18. Coronary diseases, angina ... ... ...	18	11	29
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ...	1	1	2
20. Other heart diseases ... ... ...	7	5	12
21. Other circulatory diseases...	1	—	1
22. Influenza ... ... ...	3	—	3
23. Pneumonia ... ... ...	4	1	5
24. Bronchitis ... ... ...	1	3	4
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ...	3	—	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ...	1	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ...	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ...	—	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	1	2	3
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ... ...	5	2	7
34. All other accidents ... ... ...	4	—	4
35. Suicide ... ... ...	—	—	—
36. Homicidal and operations of war ...	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>		<b>76</b>	<b>54</b>
			<b>130</b>

**Population.** The population figures as supplied by the Registrar General for the past ten years are as follows :—

1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
10,220	10,320	10,340	10,400	10,610	10,780	11,210	11,380	11,280	11,270

The natural increase in population, or the excess of births over deaths, was 52.

### Birth Rate 1952-1961

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Brackley	18.6	16.2	20.8	19.0	18.2	19.1	17.0	16.2	18.2	16.1
Northamptonshire	15.50	16.16	16.20	15.49	16.67	17.03	16.9	16.6	17.7	18.04
England and Wales	15.3	15.5	18.3	15.0	14.6	15.4	16.4	15.2	17.1	17.4

**Births.** The number of live births assigned to this district was 182 compared with 206 in 1960. The birth rate for 1961 of 16.1 is 2.1 per thousand less than the rate for 1960 and 1.3 lower than the rate 17.4 for England and Wales.

### Still-Birth Rate, 1961

**Still-Births.** There were 3 still-births during 1961.

**Illegitimate Births.** There were 12 illegitimate births assigned to the district in 1961 (8 male and 4 female) the same as the previous year's figure.

### Infant Mortality Rate, 1952-1961

#### Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Brackley.	20.3	47.6	28.3	10.1	26.0	9.2	20.9	21.6	29.1	16.4
Northamptonshire.	24.96	24.70	23.9	20.79	19.68	22.53	19.7	20.2	22.57	17.61
England and Wales.	27.6	26.8	25.5	24.9	23.9	24.8	22.5	22.6	21.7	21.4

The number of children who died before reaching their first birthday was 3.

**Maternal Mortality.** There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes or conditions allied to childbirth.

### Death Rate 1952—1961

Year	Brackley				Recorded Rate	Northamptonshire	England and Wales
	Total	M.	F.				
1952	92	61	31		9·00	11·04	11·3
1953	97	48	49		9·3	11·51	11·4
1954	94	46	48		9·09	11·04	11·3
1955	113	56	57		10·7	11·38	11·7
1956	121	73	48		11·4	11·24	11·3
1957	110	58	52		10·2	10·97	13·4
1958	120	56	64		10·7	11·5	11·7
1959	132	76	56		11·5	11·7	11·1
1960	112	56	56		9·9	10·88	11·5
1961	130	76	54		11·5	11·18	12·0

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

#### (a) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, examine all swabs submitted by General Practitioners in the area and have also undertaken the examination of milk, ice cream, water samples and other specimens submitted from this district. The service is entirely free.

#### (b) Nursing in The Home

The County Council now provide "Nursing in the Home" services and also arrange for "Home Help" where possible. Some fairly full information on the latest development in the home nursing service may be seen upon reference to the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

#### (c) Clinic and Treatment Centres

Infant Welfare—Brackley  
Orthopædic Clinic  
Vision Clinic  
Infant Welfare Clinic, Middleton Cheney } Organised  
by County Council

#### (d) Blind Persons

Incidence of blindness is reported upon in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

#### (e) Tuberculosis

The preventive and after-care services as a means of controlling tuberculosis are administered by the County Council.

#### (f) Dental Treatment

Details of dental treatment performed in this area may be seen on reference to the report by the Senior Dental Officer for the County which is incorporated in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

#### (g) Epileptics and Spastics

The County Council are responsible for any facilities available for treatment of these conditions.

#### (h) Domiciliary Services

Details are included in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

#### **Generally.**

Life is happier and healthier where the sanitary circumstances of a district are satisfactory. Good progress continues to be made in this area so far as these amenities are concerned. Good sanitation, a safe and adequate water supply, improved housing conditions and reasonably frequent collection of house refuse help in providing the conditions needed for the enjoyment of a healthy life.

#### **Drainage and Sanitation.**

Each year more and more premises are being provided with waterborne sanitation and I hope the time is not too far distant when I may report that every house in the area is enjoying main drainage with a bathroom and that the privy or pail closet is more of a museum piece than a type of sanitary fitting found in some of the houses in this district.

During the year sanitary improvements, e.g. new drainage, W.C.'s, baths, etc., were carried out at 84 premises.

#### **Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.**

Schemes for the resewering and provision of new sewage disposal works have been prepared for the parishes of Aston-le-Walls, Lower and Upper Boddington, Evenley, Eydon, Thorpe Mandeville and Whitfield.

The proposed scheme for Boddington is due to commence early in 1962.

A new sewer was laid in the hamlet of Crowfield and a scheme is being prepared for a new sewage disposal works there. The need for these proposed new works is great, as at present the sewerage receives no proper treatment.

The resewering of Lower Middleton Cheney was completed during the year.

The present position in the various parishes at the end of 1961 is as follows :—

<b>Place</b>	<b>New Sewers</b>	<b>New Sewage Disposal Works</b>
Aston le Walls	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Aynho	Completed	Deferred
Boddington	Work commencing January, 1962	Work commencing January, 1962
Chacombe	Completed	Completed
Charlton	Deferred	Deferred
Chipping Warden	Completed	Completed
Croughton	Completed	Completed
Crowfield	Scheme prepared	Scheme prepared
Culworth	Completed	Completed
Evenley	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Eydon	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Farthinghoe	Completed	Completed
Greatworth	Completed	Completed
Helmdon	Completed	Completed
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	Deferred	Deferred
Kings Sutton	Completed	Completed
Marston St. Lawrence	Deferred	Deferred
Middleton Cheney (Lower)	Completed	Completed
Middleton Cheney (Upper)	35% Completed	Deferred
Moreton Pinkney	Completed	Completed
Overthorpe	Completed	Completed
Radstone	Deferred	Deferred
Sulgrave	Deferred	Part completed
Syresham	Completed	Completed
Thorpe Mandeville	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared
Whitfield	Scheme being prepared	Scheme being prepared

### **Water Supply.**

Throughout the year 125 samples of mains water have been taken for bacteriological examination of which details are shown on page 13. In 3 cases the presence of coliform organisms was revealed. Check samples taken were found satisfactory indicating that the contamination was local and confined to a particular tap or length of piping. The occasional discovery of evidence of contamination such as this not only causes some concern but is difficult to explain. Details of a chemical analysis made of mains water are given on page 12. Most of the properties in the district are now connected to the mains supply.

BOSTOCK, HILL & RIGBY,  
Public Analysts' Laboratories,  
37, Birchfield Road,  
BIRMINGHAM 19.

3rd July, 1961.  
Ref. RKC/MC/W.224

**Water Analysis Results expressed in parts per 1,000,000.**

Received on : 28th June, 1961.

From : Brackley Rural District Council.

Description :—Sample of water taken from Skaigh House,  
Evenley. Bucks Water Board Mains Supply. 1 p.m.

Appearance .....	Bright, few small particles
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	0·16
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	0·28
Chlorine in Chlorides .....	35·0
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	Absent
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 27°C. in 4 hours ...	1·1
Total Solids dried at 100°C. ....	385
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	Absent
pH .....	7·22
Free Chlorine .....	0·15
Radioactivity .....	—

The above results show that this water is organically of fair quality, and very similar in characteristics to the last sample examined in July 1960.

The sample contained free chlorine, and subject to satisfactory bacteriological examination the water, in its present condition, would be safe for use for drinking purposes.

(Signed) Bostock, Hill & Rigby.

Public Analysts.

## Water Samples.

Details of samples of mains water taken in 1961 and results of bacteriological examinations thereof are :—

PARISH or VILLAGE	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
Aston le Walls	3	—	3
Aynho	4	—	4
Upper Boddington	4	—	4
Lower Boddington	4	—	4
Chacombe	3	—	3
Chipping Warden	4	—	4
Croughton	3	—	3
Crowfield	2	—	2
Culworth	4	—	4
Evenley	12	—	12
Eydon	3	—	3
Farthinghoe	5	1	6
Greatworth	4	—	4
Halse	7	2	9
Helmdon	5	—	5
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	4	—	4
Kings Sutton	6	—	6
Marston St. Lawrence	3	—	3
Middleton Cheney	7	—	7
Moreton Pinkney	3	—	3
Newbottle	4	—	4
Overthorpe	4	—	4
Radstone	3	—	3
Sulgrave	4	—	4
Syresham	5	—	5
Thenford	3	—	3
Thorpe Mandeville	3	—	3
Warkworth	3	—	3
Whitfield	3	—	3
<hr/>		<hr/>	
	122 or 97·6%	3 or 2·4%	125

## Private Supplies.

Only 3 samples from shallow wells and a spring were taken during the year, 2 at the request of the owners of the supplies and one at a school. All were unsatisfactory and the owners notified accordingly. The samples were taken at Aston-le-Walls, Chipping Warden and Syresham. The school has now been connected to the mains supply.

## **Caravans and Camping Sites.**

With the advent of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, the Council reviewed its existing caravan licences.

Licences were not issued in respect of 4 individual caravans as the sites qualified for exemption from the licensing provisions in view of the fact that the caravans were occupied temporarily by persons employed in agricultural or building operations.

Of the 14 licences which were issued, 12 were for individual caravans on separate sites and 2 for sites having more than 1 caravan.

Conditions controlling sanitary arrangements and other amenities were attached to each licence and ample time given to the respective site owner to bring his site up to the standard required by the licence.

The largest site in the District is licensed for 14 caravans. The licensee submitted proposals to bring it up to standard but it is now understood that the site is likely to close down which will no doubt cause hardship to the present caravan dwellers who will have difficulty in finding an alternative site on which to station their caravan.

Fortunately this District is not confronted with a caravan problem. Almost without exception the caravans are of a good type and the sites well conducted. On occasions caravans parked on the grass verges of the roads or lanes are troublesome mainly because of litter being strewn about. The owners of these caravans are not of the Romany class who leave their camping grounds clean and tidy as they pass through the District and usually are the proud possessors of a good type of caravan.

## **Schools.**

As in former years all schools are visited and samples taken of the milk and water supplies. During the year 17 samples of water and 22 of milk were examined and all found satisfactory. All schools are now connected to the mains water supply. The school using drinking water from a private supply to which I have referred in previous reports was connected this year.

The County Education Officer (Mr. G. E. Churchill) has again kindly supplied me with information concerning school meals in this area which is shown in the following table.

Schools	Whether School Meals are provided	Sent out from
Aston-le-Walls	Yes	Byfield.
Aynho	Yes	King's Sutton.
Upper Boddington	Yes	Byfield.
Chacombe	No	
Charlton	No	
Chipping Warden	Yes	Byfield.
Croughton	Yes	King's Sutton.
Culworth	No	
Evenley	No	
Eydon	No	
Farthinghoe	No	
Greatworth	No	
Helmdon	Yes	Brackley.
Kings Sutton	Yes	Own Canteen.
Marston St. Lawrence	No	
Middleton Cheney	Yes	Own Canteen.
Moreton Pinkney	No	
Sulgrave	No	
Syresham	Yes	Own Canteen.
Thorpe Mandeville	Yes	Middleton Cheney.

### **Shops and Offices.**

Practically all shops in the area are selling food and therefore are visited by the Health Inspectors who this year made 604 inspections. The general standard of these shops is good.

The Offices Act, 1960 came into operation at the beginning of the year but there are extremely few offices in this rural area to be inspected. Regulations applicable to such places of employment will no doubt in future be made.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

It was again unnecessary to take any action in this respect during the year.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are still no such places requiring supervision.

### **Verminous Premises.**

Again no action was necessary.

### **Public Cleansing.**

This service, which is under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor, continues to work satisfactorily. House refuse is collected fortnightly and disposed of by tipping at Charlton, Greatworth and Moreton Pinkey.

## **Factory Acts 1937 and 1948.**

Notice of occupation, was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories of 2 new factories which now brings the total number of factories in this District to 15.

The number of inspections made to factories was 57 mainly in connection with the condition of sanitary accommodation.

At the largest factory there is now a well equipped canteen which is inspected several times during the year. The sanitary accommodation at this factory complies with modern requirements and is well maintained.

It was necessary to serve informal notices requesting improvements to be carried out at 2 factories both of which were in due course complied with.

### **Inspections**

No. of premises on register	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
15	57	2	Nil.

### **Cases in which defects were found**

Found	Remedied	Prosecutions
2	2	Nil.

**There are still no outworkers in the district.**

## Summary of Public Health Inspectors' Visits to Premises during 1961.

Inspections—Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	122
Inspections—Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
No. of Public Health Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
Food Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Food Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Factory Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Factory Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factory Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Building Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	739
Works in Progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103

### Visits to:—

Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Provision Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ice Cream Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Dining Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Infectious Disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Inspection of drainage work	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Petroleum Stores	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114

### Summary of Complaints Received—1961.

Complaints made in writing, by telephone or verbally during the year totalled 183 and concerned the following matters, viz. :—

Drainage, sewerage, and sanitation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Insanitary accumulations and disposal of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Insanitary dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Pollution of Water-courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisance from keeping animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
General housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Noise Nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
							Total	183

This total is 31 less than last year.

**Statement of Housing Repairs or Improvements  
dealt with during the Year 1961.**

	Number of Houses
Completely reconditioned ...	8
New drainage systems and water-closets installed in place of privies or pail-closets ...	84
Sundry repairs and improvements carried out after service of notice ...	14

**Nuisances abated under the Public Health Act, 1936**

Offensive accumulations removed ...	12
Nuisances from keeping animals abated ...	8
Miscellaneous nuisances abated ...	3
Insanitary dwellings ...	5
Insect pests ...	8

## **SECTION D.**

### **HOUSING.**

#### **Slum Clearance.**

Progress in Slum Clearance continues to be satisfactory; there are now 114 dwellings (402 in 1955) considered to be unfit for human habitation and on which no action has yet been taken by the Council. Of these, a large proportion are owner/occupied or tenanted by elderly persons and the Council are advised to postpone any action until the properties become vacant. Ten of the dwellings should be dealt with by 1965 and most of the remainder by 1975.

The complete Slum Clearance Programme is shown in Table "A" and action taken during the year in Table "B."

#### **Improvement Grants.**

Applications for both the Discretionary Grant (Max. £400) and the Standard Grant (Max. £155) continue to decrease. There were 20 applications for the former grant and 11 applications for the latter.

#### **New Dwellings (Council Houses).**

The Council completed 18 houses during the year; 2 at Chacombe, 2 at Helmdon, 14 at King's Sutton.

#### **New Dwellings (Private Enterprise).**

There were 26 dwellings built during the year and at the 31st December the Council had approved plans for a further 71 dwellings and of these 41 were under construction.

The number of houses provided by private enterprise continues to increase and this is especially so at Middleton Cheney where two comparatively large estates are being developed. At the time of writing this report (May 1962) work has started on the construction of 23 dwellings on one site and 28 dwellings on the other site.

#### **Building Inspections.**

Since March 1961, when this Department commenced to carry out the duties of building inspection, 739 visits were made to building sites for this purpose.

**TABLE "A"**

**"Slum Clearance" Programme.**

(Number of houses unfit for habitation and not repairable at a reasonable expense.)

	At 31st Aug., 1955	At 31st Dec., 1961
Houses subject to existing Housing Act Orders :—		
Clearance Orders ... ... ... ... 71	... ... ... ... 5	
Demolition Orders Closing Orders and Undertakings ... 24	... ... ... ... 82	
Dwellings demolished and dwel- lings reconditioned :—		
Houses demolished ... ... ... ... —	... ... ... ... 144	
Huts demolished ... ... ... ... —	... ... ... ... 66	
Houses reconditioned and made fit for habitation ... ... —	... ... ... ... 100	
Number of dwellings scheduled for future action under the Housing Acts :—		
Ex-Wartime hutments ... ... ... ... 66	... ... ... ... —	
Houses ... ... ... ... 336	... ... ... ... 114	

**TABLE "B"**

**"Slum Clearance"—Action taken in 1961.**

	Number of Dwellings
Demolished ... ... ... ... ... ... ... ... 16	
Closed (Closing Orders and Undertakings) ... 7	
Reconditioned and made fit for habitation ... 8	
Demolition Orders made ... ... ... ... 11	
Families rehoused from 'slum' property ... 11	

**TABLE "C".**  
**Statement of Housing Progress**  
(i.e., provision of new houses).

PARISHES	Pre-war and Wartime Housing Position						Post-war Housing Programme					Total No. of Houses owned by Council.
	Housing Act 1920.	Housing Act 1924.	Housing Act 1930. Housing Acts 1935 and 1936	War-time Agr. Houses.	TOTAL.	Undeveloped Sites	Developed Sites	Houses not begun	Houses on Tenders Apprd.	Private houses acquired and reconditioned	Houses Completed	
Aston-le-Walls	—	—	—	16	—	16	—	—	—	5	21	
Aynho	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	30	32
Boddingtons	—	4	—	—	2	6	2	—	—	—	21	27
Chacombe	—	—	3	14	—	17	—	—	4	—	17	34
Chipping Warden	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	45
Croughton	6	—	2	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	19	27
Culworth	6	—	5	10	—	21	—	—	—	—	21	42
Edgcote	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Evenley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	11
Eydon	8	—	—	4	—	12	4	—	—	—	9	21
Farthinghoe	2	—	6	—	2	10	—	—	—	—	20	30
Greatworth	8	—	8	—	—	16	18	—	—	—	29	45
Helmdon	8	—	—	8	—	16	54	—	12	—	21	37
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Kings Sutton	18	—	8	40	—	66	21	—	—	—	181	247
Marston St. Lawrence	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	11	17
Middleton Cheney	20	—	22	30	—	72	60	—	—	—	146	218
Moreton Pinkney	—	—	—	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	9	17
Newbottle	6	—	12	—	—	18	60	—	2	—	25	43
Radstone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulgrave	8	—	6	—	—	14	6	—	—	—	17	31
Syresham	10	—	4	24	—	38	4	—	—	—	33	71
Thenford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Mandeville	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6	12
Warkworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitfield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	112	4	76	154	4	350	229	—	18	2	688	1040

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

#### Food Premises Generally.

As in previous years much attention has been paid to all types of food premises in this District. Fairly frequent calls by the Inspectors at these places does help in improving conditions or maintaining a good standard.

There are, however, just a few premises which give some concern, mainly because the person running the particular business is quite unsuitable for the work undertaken and, in consequence, fails to recognise that the shop is often below the required standard and is amazed and even annoyed when attention is drawn to failures or omissions. Most people dislike being told when they are wrong, and, no matter how tactful or patient the official may be, show resentment or even hostility, when attention is drawn to some breach of the Food Hygiene Regulations. The food dealer and his staff should realise they have a duty to see that the public food supply is handled in a cleanly and proper manner and the general public is entitled to demand that this is so. Whereas many members of the public are becoming food-hygiene-conscious, there are still too many who show complete indifference to places where their food is stored or sold or even how it is presented to them.

How many people would avoid dealing at a shop which appears substandard or refuse to receive an article of food after the shop assistant had licked fingers or perpetrated some other objectional habit? The general public could assist in the drive for clean food production and handling, by refusing to shop at premises which are not up to standard or by reporting any infringement of the Food Laws to the local public health department.

As possibly I have said in some of my earlier reports, to bring about a food consciousness, particularly amongst those who handle the public food supply, is often a tedious, and sometimes a discouraging, task to those whose duty it is to see that food hygiene is observed and the public food supply clean and free from infection. Perhaps the day is not too far distant when all food premises are compelled by law to be registered after having first satisfied the appropriate authority they are of a thoroughly good standard before opening to the public, and if the condition should warrant such action being taken that the shop can be closed at any time by that same authority until brought up to the required standard.

During the year 4 public houses gave up their licences, viz. the "Fox Inn," Crowfield; "Crewe Arms," Hinton-in-the-Hedges; "Dun Cow Inn," Moreton Pinkney and the "Six Bells Inn," Sulgrave. An itinerant food vendor at Middleton Cheney who travelled in confectionery closed his business. An unsatisfactory shop at King's Sutton with the combined business of provisions, greengrocery and fish frying closed upon completion of a new shop and premises. The new shop is of a very high standard. At Aynho a major improvement is taking place at a hotel which, when completed, should provide an extremely pleasant and up-to-date hostelry. A wayside Inn at Syresham has been completely modernised with an exceptionally nice kitchen which I should say compares for efficiency, with any kitchen one might find in the West End of London. In King's Sutton two new mobile butchers shops have been provided by the local butchers and are a pleasing sight to behold when plying round the countryside. These vans each carry a wash-unit with hot water to enable the butchers to keep their hands clean while handling the meat.

Other improvements made at food places are shown on page 27.

Reviewing the year's work I am pleased to report a continued improvement in the standard of the food premises in the district. The total number of visits made to food premises was 604 as shown in detail on page 18.

It is again gratifying to report that no food poisoning was notified.

### **Ice Cream.**

The number of places now selling ice cream is 43 and all are registered premises under the Food and Drugs Act as being suitable for that purpose. Ice cream samples taken totalled 42 plus 3 water ices. All were subjected to the Methylene Blue Reduction Test and 38 placed in Provisional Grade 1; 1 in Grade 2; 3 in Grade 3 and none in Grade 4. The water ices were given a coliform test and each found to be satisfactory. There were 80 inspections made at ice cream premises.

## **Milk Supply.**

Milk is sold in this district by 9 local distributors and, in addition, by other distributors whose premises are situated outside the local boundary and who are no longer required to hold supplementary licences issued by this local authority. The milk sold is either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised.

Of the 9 local distributors, 6 are licensed for the sale of Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised, 2 for Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised, and 1 for Pasteurised milk only.

Samples taken were :—

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	Pasteurised	Tuberculin Tested	Sterilised	TOTAL
2	31	5	1	39

All samples of Pasteurised milk satisfied the Phosphatase Test indicating that the milk had been properly heat-treated but 3 failed the Methylene Blue Test as did 1 sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Altogether 64 visits were made concerning milk supply.

## **Food and Drugs Act—1955—Section 16.**

There are 43 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream including 5 new registrations made during the year. The 10 butchers shops in the area are registered for the preparation and manufacture of sausages, pressed, pickled or preserved foods.

## **Meat Inspection.**

No slaughterhouses are operating in the area. All meat sold is obtained from outside sources, usually Banbury or Northampton. Visual inspection of meat sold in our butchers' shops is made by the Health Inspectors during routine inspections. The quality of the meat supply is good.

## **Food Inspection (Other than meat)**

Food inspection generally is amply taken care of by fairly frequent visits made to the various food shops. Any new food vendor receives a talk by one of the Inspectors and is supplied with copies of the Food Hygiene Regulations and Local Food Byelaws.

Only a 1 lb. pot of marmalade was condemned for containing a foreign body—to wit—a wasp. The manufacturers of the marmalade were much perturbed and assured the Department they had done their best to avoid such an occurrence.

## **Food and Drugs Sampling.**

The Northamptonshire County Council is the responsible authority for sampling foods to ascertain if they conform to required standards and are free from adulteration. Details of samples taken in this area during 1961 are as follows :—

Milk .....	30	Brought Forward	47
Salad Cream .....	1	Condensed Milk .....	3
Pastes .....	3	Fish Cakes .....	1
Tea .....	2	Jelly .....	1
Spirits .....	3	Jam .....	1
Meat Products .....	2	Dramel .....	1
Butter .....	1	Sweets .....	1
Sausages .....	2	Pork Pies .....	6
Ice Cream .....	3		
		TOTAL	61
Carried Forward	47		

## **Remarks.**

Only one sample received an adverse report from the Public Analyst. This was a sample of tinned Stewed Steak which because of the percentage of meat and the fact that it contained 4 per cent carbohydrate should have been described as stewed steak and gravy. This matter was taken up with the suppliers.

The remaining samples were satisfactory in all respects.

## **Sales of Food (Weights and Measures) Act, 1926. Labelling of Food Order, 1953.**

1,911 articles of food were checked for weight or measure during the year. 20 articles were found to be incorrect but the deficiencies were small and no special action was called for.

## **Details of the Various Food Premises in the District**

---

### **Nature of Business**

	No. in District or on Register	No. of Visits during year
General Provision Stores ...	51	185
Butchers' Shops ... ... ...	10	94
Dining and Tea Rooms ... ...	6	12
Public Houses or Inns ... ...	36	113
Bakehouses ... ... ...	4	30
Milk Distributors ... ... ...	9	64
Ice Cream Premises ... ... ...	43	80
Fish Fryers or Fish Shops ...	1	8

### **Details of Repairs and Improvements to Food Premises.**

#### **Bakehouses**

Cleansed and Limewashed ... ... ... ...	8
---	---

#### **Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises**

Repaired ... ... ... ...	1
Structural Alterations ... ... ... ...	4
Redecorated internally ... ... ... ...	5

#### **Cafés and Public Houses**

Suitable closet accommodation provided ... ...	3
Repaired ... ... ... ...	3
Apparatus and Utensils cleansed or improved ... ...	1
Structural alterations made ... ... ... ...	1
Bar Sink with hot and cold water provided ... ...	2
Redecorated internally ... ... ... ...	4

## **SECTION F.**

### **PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

The sharp rise in the total number of infectious cases notified, i.e., 244 against the previous year's total of 46, was due to an outbreak of measles which reached its climax during the months of May and June. Otherwise, the year was a satisfactory one so far as infectious diseases are concerned. As in previous years the 4 cases of Scarlet Fever were of a mild character, each patient being treated at home under supervision by the general practitioner.

Neither Poliomyelitis nor Food Poisoning was notified.

**Smallpox**—No case notified.

**Puerperal Fever**—No case notified.

**Enteric Fever**—No case notified.

**Pneumonia**—There were 3 cases of acute pneumonia notified.

Details of the 244 infectious diseases notified during the year are shown in the table on page 30.

### **Vaccination and Immunisation.**

By the courtesy of Dr. C. M. Smith, the County Medical Officer of Health, the following figures are given of vaccination and immunisation for the year ending 31st December, 1961, and the number of children who had completed a full course of Diphtheria immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1961.

### Smallpox Vaccination

	(Under 1)	(1)	(2-4)	(5-14)	(15 or over)	Total
Primary	71	11	18	8	9	117
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	1	17	18

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

(Under 1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5-9)	(10-14)	Total	15 or over	Third Injs.	Fourth Injs.	Total
10	83	23	6	1	23	20	166	193	537	827	

### Diphtheria Immunisation

(Under 1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5-9)	(10-14)	Total	Booster	
Diphtheria Immunisation only :	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	5	47

#### Combined Diphtheria Whooping Cough :

—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	5
Triple 76	24	10	6	3	6	3	128	39

#### Total Diphtheria Immunisations :

76	24	10	7	4	8	5	134	91
----	----	----	---	---	---	---	-----	----

#### Whooping Cough only :

—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

### Number of Children who have completed a full Course of Diphtheria Immunisation

Age at 31.12.61, i.e., born in year :

(Under 1)	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5-9)	(10-14)	Total
1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1952-	1947-	Under 15

#### Number Immunised :

27	102	107	124	131	591	630	1,712
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

**Incidence of Notifiable Diseases**  
 (other than Tuberculosis)  
**IN INDIVIDUAL PARISHES**  
 During the year, 1961

PARISH	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Totals
Aston-le-Walls	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Aynho	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Boddington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chacombe	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Chipping Warden	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
Croughton	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Culworth	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Edgcote	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Evenley	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	7
Eydon	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	18
Farthinghoe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greatworth	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Helmdon	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hinton-in-the-Hedges	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Kings Sutton	2	—	1	107	1	—	—	—	—	111
Marston St. Lawrence	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton Cheney	—	—	—	34	2	—	—	—	—	36
Moreton Pinkney	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Newbottle/Charlton	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Radstone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulgrave	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Syresham	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Thenford	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Thorpe Mandeville	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
Warkworth	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Whitfield	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	4	—	3	234	3	—	—	—	—	244

## **Incidence of Infectious Diseases**

**Over the past 10 years (other than Tuberculosis)**

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet Fever	3	16	8	9	—	5	—	8	3	4
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	4	3	2	1	1	3	1	4	1	3
Erysipelas	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles	23	152	4	338	—	105	111	108	36	234
Whooping Cough	6	22	15	46	—	17	3	17	5	3
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	2	—	1	—	8	4	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	7	1	—

## Period Distribution of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases—1961

A statement showing the period distribution of the cases notified is given hereunder.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	4
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Measles	2	2	5	14	74	104	27	5	—	1	—	—	234
Whooping Cough	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	6	2	7	14	74	104	30	5	—	1	1	—	244

## Tuberculosis.

### Age Incidence of New Cases during 1961

Age Periods Years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 — 1	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—
5 — 15	—	—	—	—
15 — 25	—	—	—	—
25 — 35	—	—	—	—
35 — 45	—	—	—	—
45 — 65	—	—	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—
Total	2	—	1	—

Total cases on the Register at the end of the year remain at 67 and are classified as follows :—

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
23	24	12	8	35	32

## **RODENT CONTROL**

Although nothing spectacular has happened in 1961 the destruction of rodents has continued relentlessly, the results of which will be seen upon reference to the table below.

All sewers were test baited in 1960 and as no 'takes' were apparent further baiting of the sewers was considered unnecessary until 1962.

I understand that Mr. Bartlett has performed the duties as Rodent Operative with his customary skill and ability and as it was again unnecessary to serve any enforcement notices on land or property owners for any breach of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 it shows that his work was carried out with tact as well as efficiency.

Details of the work of the Rodent Operative carried out during 1961 are as follows :—

### **Surface Infestations.**

No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
No. of premises inspected and treated (private and business)	...	...	...	...	...	...	213
No. of visits made	...	...	...	...	...	...	612
No. of premises cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	213
No. of survey visits made	...	...	...	...	...	...	978
No. of rat bodies found	...	...	...	...	...	...	1280
No. of baiting points	...	...	...	...	...	...	4865

### **Quantity of Material Used.**

Oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	...	2450 lbs.
Cymag	...	...	...	...	...	...	10 lbs.
Warfarin	...	...	...	...	...	...	135 lbs.

### **Local Authority Undertakings.**

No. of treatments at Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
No. of visits and surveys made	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
No. of rat bodies found	...	...	...	...	...	...	850
No. of sewage disposal outfalls treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
No. of visits and surveys made	...	...	...	...	...	...	158

### **Total Number of Bodies Found.**

(1) Rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2130
(2) Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	454

---

The Bicester Advertiser Ltd.,  
Market Square,  
Bicester.

---





